What is claimed is:

1. A method for the treatment of a neoplastic disease or disorder characterized by cells expressing CD40 in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a CD40 specific agent in combination with a CD20 specific agent.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the neoplastic disease or disorder is a hematological malignancy.

3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the neoplastic disease or disorder is a solid tumor.

4. The method according to claim 2 wherein the malignancy is a lymphoma.

5. The method according to claim 4 wherein the lymphoma is a non-hodgkins type lymphoma.

6. The method according to claim 2 wherein the malignancy is a myeloma.

7. The method according to claim 6 wherein the myeloma is a multiple myeloma.

8. The method according to claim 2 wherein the malignancy is a leukemia.

9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the CD40 specific agent is an antibody.

10. The method according to claim 9 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

11. The method according to claim 10 wherein the monoclonal antibody has the binding characteristics of monoclonal antibody S2C6.

12. The method according to claim 10 wherein the monoclonal antibody competes for binding of CD40 with the monoclonal antibody S2C6.

13. The method according to claim 1 wherein the CD20 specific agent is an antibody.

14. The method according to claim 13 wherein the CD20 specific agent is a monoclonal antibody.

15. The method according to claim 14 wherein the monoclonal antibody is C2B8.

16. The method according to claim 9 wherein the CD20 specific agent is an antibody.

17. The method according to claim 16 wherein the CD20 specific agent is a monoclonal antibody.

18. The method according to claim 17 wherein the CD20 specific agent is C2B8.

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising in an amount effective for the treatment of a neoplastic disease or disorder characterized by cells expressing CD40:(a) a CD40 specific agent; (b) a CD20 specific agent and (c) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. A kit comprising (a) a CD40 specific agent; (b) a CD20 specific agent and optionally, (c) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21. A method for the treatment of an autoimmune disease or disorder characterized by cells expressing CD40 in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a CD40 specific agent in combination with a CD20 specific agent.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the autoimmune disease is rheumatoid arthritis.

23. The method of claim 21 wherein the autoimmune disease is systemic lupus erythrematosus.

24. The method according to claim 21 wherein the CD40 specific agent is an antibody.

25. The method according to claim 24 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

26. The method according to claim 25 wherein the monoclonal antibody has the binding characteristics of monoclonal antibody S2C6.

27. The method according to claim 25 wherein the monoclonal antibody competes for binding of CD40 with the monoclonal antibody S2C6.

28. The method according to claim 24 wherein the CD20 specific agent is an antibody.

29. The method according to claim 28 wherein the CD20 specific agent is a monoclonal antibody.

30. The method according to claim 29 wherein the monoclonal antibody is C2B8.